

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Replace the paragraph extending from Page 3, line 33, to Page 4, line 4, with the following paragraph:

The carrier elements 1 are substantially parallel with one another and typically are substantially ~~vertically~~ vertical. Since the partition elements 2 which are to be mounted between the carrier elements 1 are substantially rectangular with predetermined dimensions, it is important that the distance between the carrier elements 1 agrees with the outer dimensions of the partition elements 2. The carrier elements 1 extend substantially throughout the entire height of the screening off system and are an integral part thereof.

Replace the paragraph extending from Page 7, line 27, to Page 8, with the following paragraph:

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the locking means 12. The locking means ~~422~~ 12 displays a guide section 18 in the form of a groove for accommodating the edges 13, 14 of the upper recess 10. The bottom of the groove 18 is of a configuration which is complementary to the configuration of the edges 13, 14 of the upper recess. The locking means 12 further displays a snap catch ~~49~~ in the form of a spring 19. That end of the spring 19 which is most proximal the outwardly facing side of the locking means 12 projects out a distance from the main portion of the locking means 12, while the rear end of the spring 19 lies substantially flush with the main portion of the locking means 12. This implies that, when the locking means 12 is inserted in the recess 10, the spring 19 will be depressed during insertion in order subsequently to spring out and fixedly lock the locking means 12 in its position.